KENNEBEC FARMER
AND JOURNAL OF THE USEFUL ARTS.

BY WILLIAM NOYES & CO.] "OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN." [E. HOLMES, EDITOR.

VOL. I. WINTHROP, MAINE, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1833. NO. 6.

AGRICULTURAL.

From the American Farmer.

REMARKS ON THE DOMESTIC OX.

(Concluded.)

We are disposed to consider the hardy and active cattle of New England, as belonging to the middle horned, and probably the Devon breed. If so, they have much improved in that climate, as they they frequently develop great size. Attention to breeding from those of the best characters and forms, of animals already acclimated and shewing propensities to improve, is always a successful course, and is the basis of the improvements in England. Foreign crosses from improved stocks are doubtless advantageous, but these should be introduced with caution into climates differing essentially from that from which the improved stock is derived, and great care should be observed that the stock introduced is not of a tender family, requiring much attention and stall-feeding, so opposed to the habits of our country, and so much beyond our general means, and also from the prices of labor and food rather an unprofitable course.

The fine breeds of the South branch and upper parts of the Potomac, also appear to be improved Devons. They have, however, generally well developed horns, as have also the greater part of the cattle of the western country, but those with small horns are considered a better race and more easily fattened.

The polled races are also frequently met with in our country.

The hunched races differ from the straight-backs, not merely in the hunch, but in their voice, and they possess also greater liveliness and activity. These last properties might adapt them admirably for the draught, where quick and active motion is so desirable. They are common in Asia and Africa, have generally crumpled horns, and much white in their coloring.—Many suppose these to have originated from a species different from the straight-backs.

There are animals indigenous to North America, which have a strong resemblance to those about which we have been treating, one of these is classed as of a different genus from the *Bos*, and is called of the genus *Oribos*. It stands as the only species of this genus. We allude to the *Musk ox*, (O. Moschatus) of the northern regions. It is described as in "size equal to the Gurnsey cow, with brownish black hair, occasionally marked with white blots, and it grows to a very great length. Its legs are generally white." It is a very fierce animal particularly in the rutting season, when the bulls frequently fight until one is killed. They live in small herds, seldom exceeding forty. There is generally an over proportion of cows supposed to be a consequence of the deadly contest between the bulls, as these are frequently found killed. They emit a strong musky smell, but their flesh is considered good, particularly that of the calves and heifers. Three hundred to three hundred and fifty pounds of beef is the general yield of a good carcass. No endeavors have yet been made to domesticate these animals, and our knowledge of them is rather limited, derived principally from the hunters of Hudson's bay and the few travellers who have penetrated into that region.

The other animal to which we alluded, but which is however of the genus Bos, is the *American Bison* (*Bos Americanus.*) Its common and well known name is the buffalo. It has "small black horns, very distant, turned sideways and upwards, height at the shoulders about five feet, at the croup four, and length from nose to tail eight." But these dimensions no doubt vary considerably, from the weights which have been reported of some individuals.—The disposition of its hair and its general aspect are well known in our country, from frequent exhibitions of the animal, and the many excellent prints of it which exist. Its structure forward, is extremely robust and heavy, but light and weak behind. "The body is long, having fifteen pair of ribs, and but four coccygian vertebræ." They are active and irritable, but not vicious, except in the rutting season, and might, I have no doubt, be easily tamed; many have been, partially, at our frontier posts, and endeavors have been used to produce a cross between the buffalo bull and the domestic cow, but with fatal effects to the latter, as she has been found unable to relieve herself from the calf. Greater success would without doubt follow the experiment of a cross between the domestic bull and the buffalo cow, as the probable change of conformation of the issue would facilitate the delivery from a mother, formed to relieve herself from a full hunch. But the success is hardly desirable, as the issue would in all probability be unprolific.—The parents are evidently, and with great propriety so considered by naturalists, of different species. At least the known differences in osteology justifies such a conclusion, until the unequivocal experiment shall prove to the contrary. The period of gestation is said to be different from that of the domestic ox.

All these are ruminating animals, or animals which chew the cud. While mentioning the cud, it may not be amiss to notice a common error in relation to this animal, and which I have found to prevail in the minds of many intelligent farmers of our country. When indisposed, it is frequently said that they have lost their cud, as they are not at such times observed to chew it, and a cud or ball of grass or hay is made up and placed in the mouth as a remedy. Now this is an error. No disease of the kind can exist, nor any such remedy be efficacious. The chewing of the cud is merely the masticating of the dry food previously swallowed and deposited in the paunch. All ruminating animals have four stomachs, so disposed that the food can pass from the gullet into either of them. The first is the largest, and is called the paunch. In this the food after a slight grinding between the teeth is first received, as in a storehouse for future use, and is there subject to but little change.—The second is called the honeycomb or bonnet, from its peculiar formation. The drink of the animal which does not enter into the first, passes directly into this second stomach, into which also passes gradually the food from the paunch, where it probably undergoes more completely a formation into balls or cuds, and where it also becomes moistened from the drink of the animal. From this second stomach, the food properly prepared, is ejected upwards into the mouth, there to undergo its second and more pefect mastication, after which it passes down the gullet again into the third stomach.

The third stomach is called the *manyplies* or *tripe*. Into this the food is received after its last mastication, here it first completely changes its character, and emits an offensive smell, and from this it passes directly into the fourth stomach, called also the *rennet*. The fourth is considered as the digesting stomach, into which the gas-

tric juice is emptied to mix with the previously prepared food.

While the young are confined to their mother's milk, the last is the principal and the largest of these stomachs, and nature has singularly provided for this state of existence, by bringing it closer to the gullet, and partially obstructing the communication with the paunch, which attains its great size only by degrees, and as the animal uses dry food.

From these facts it will be readily seen, that the disease of a loss of the cud and its remedy are altogether imaginary. When the animal does not ruminate, it probably is indisposed in its digestive organs, but the curative mean should be different from that which is generally pursued.

If any one will attentively observe the domestic cow when in the act of ruminating, the process of throwing the food up into the mouth, masticating it and swallowing it again, will be easily perceived; and in addition to the authority of books I once witnessed a very clear demonstration, of the number, uses and mode of action of the stomachs, in a subject, by that distinguished naturalist, as well as eminent physician, Dr. R. Harlan, of Philadelphia, in his course of lectures on comparaive anatomy. A.

THE FARMER.

WINTHROP, MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 25, 1833.

For the Kennebec Farmer.

MR. HOLMES: There is a great deal said in the journals of the day, but none too much, about the improvement of the different breeds of cattle, and very little said about the merits or improvement of the different kind of grasses to keep those cattle upon. We think this is of as much importance, and ought to go hand in hand with the improvement of stock. Very little attention has been paid to the nature of the grasses best adapted for permanent pasture. The chief circumstance which gives value to any kind of grass, is the quantity of nutritive matter that the whole crop will afford, but the time and duration of its produce are points of great importance, and the grass that supplies green nutriment throughout the whole of the season may be more valuable than a grass which yields its produce only in summer, tho' the amount of food supplied by it may be much less.

The principal grasses cultivated in this section of the country on upland are but four, viz. Red Clover, Herds Grass or Timothy, Red top, and white clover. With the exception of red clover, the latter math or second crop is very light, except on land very highly manured. Red clover and Timothy are considered in England as ordinary kinds of grass, excepting for green fodder to be cut and occasionally fed out. Sir Humphrey Davey mentions two hundred and fifteen species of grasses cultivated in England Of these he makes particular mention of the different species of *agrostis*, as supplying pasture throughout the year, but the names of these grasses, even if they exist here, are unknown to farmers in this section of the country. I shall take the liberty, sir, of mentioning a number of different kinds of grasses which Sir Humphrey speaks of, with their qualities, wishing you or some of your correspondents would inform the public, if they exist here under another name, or whether they exist here at all, and also, if they grow here, by what names they are known among us.

The Fiorin Grasses [1] Sir Humphrey tells us, to be in perfection, require a moist climate or a wet soil, and that it grows in cold clays unfitted for other grasses. Of the common grasses that afford most nutritive matter in early springs in England, are the Vernal meadow grass, [2.] and the meadow foxtail [3.] but their produce at the time of flowering and ripening their seed, is inferior to that of a great number of other grasses; their latter math is however abundant.

Tall fescue grass [4.] stands highest, according to the duke of Bedford's experiments, of any other as it regards the quantity of nutritive matter afforded by the whole crop, when cut at the time of flowering; and Meadow cats tail [5.] affords most food when cut at the time the seed is ripe.

The highest produce of latter math from any of the grasses examined by the Duke of Bedford was afforded by the Sea meadow grass. [6.] Rye grass, [7.] is spoken of as excellent for sheep when it is young.—Cocks foot, [8.]—oxen, horses, and sheep eat this grass when it is in the early stage of its growth, in preference to most others. Meadow foxtail. [9.]—Sheep and Horses have a greater relish for this grass than oxen. Rough stalked meadow; [10.]—oxen, horses and sheep, eat this grass with avidity. So much for Sir Humphrey. Now if a wet season and moist land is wanting to bring the fiorin to perfection, we have both in abundance.

If you Mr. Editor, or any of your correspondents can give any information respecting these grasses, above named, whether any of them are cultivated in this country or where the seed can be obtained, especially the fiorin, it will be a favor to the agricultural community, and especially to

A SOMERSET FARMER.

REMARKS BY THE EDITOR.

[1.] The fiorin grass, or one very nearly allied to it, is found in some parts of the United States. It is a species of agrostis, and there are 17 or 18 species of agrostis found within the borders of the States. From all accounts the particular species which Davy mentions (viz. Agrostis Stolonifera) is not so valuable a grass as represented. We suspect the fowl-meadow is a species of agrostis, but we have never examined it, at any rate, we have no doubt it is a far more valuable grass for us than the fiorin.

[2.] This is found abundantly in Massachusetts, and in the old pastures of this state. It is intermixed with red top, &c. and when cut, gives out a very pleasant and fragrant odor. It flowers early, but does not yield a great abundance of hay. The latter math or crop is however tolerable. It is the ANTHOXANTHUM ODORATUM of Botanists. The seed we presume can be obtained at the seed stores in Boston.

[3.] This grass, called by Botanists ALOPECURUS PRATENSE we have seen in the fields of Massachusetts, but do not now recollect to have seen it in Maine, though probably it may be found on the seaboard. We believe it is not a native of America, but was introduced from England years ago.

[4.] Tall fescue grass (Festuca Elatior,) quite a number of species of the fescue grasses are found in Maine. If we mistake not we have found this one also. It generally grows (according to our recollection,) in low meadows, and frequently starts among the bushes bordering such places. It often grows to a considerable height; say three feet or more. It would probably yield a good crop.

[5.] This is our Herds Grass, or as it is sometimes called Timothy, from Timothy Hanson, who was one of the first who cultivated it. A singular provision of nature is noticed in the roots of this vegetable. When it grows in a dry soil the root assumes the shape of a ball or bulb, and thus supplies the stem or stalk with moisture in time of drowths. When it grows in moist grounds, it takes the fibrous formed root, common to most grasses.

[6] This we have seen in salt meadows, but do not know whether it will do well in the interior or not. It is a species of the Poa (Poa Maritima.) There are quite a number of this genus found in New England: one species, called Blue Grass (Poa Compressa,) which flowers quite late, say last of August, we have found on the Sandy River in Starks, also on the Kennebec, at Old Point, and else where. It is cut by some, late in the season, and it makes pretty good fodder. It is not the blue joint.

[7.] Rye Grass. We believe this is not a native of the United States. It has been introduced, and may now be found in Massa-

chusetts, and the seed can be procured in Boston. We are inclined to think that the tall meadow oat grass is a better grass than this, as it flowers early and gives a good crop.

[8.] Cocksfoot. This is undoubtedly the same as our Orchard Grass, (Dactylis Glomerata,) which is now cultivated somewhat extensively in New England. The seed may be had in Boston. It is rather a coarse grass, and seems to thrive best upon a somewhat dry and sandy soil, though it does well upon a moist one—it flowers early and makes a good mix with other grasses.

[9.] This is the same as No. 3.

[10.] We do not remember of ever having seen this grass (the Poa trivialis) in Maine. It however grows in some parts of Massachusetts in low rich meadows.

Our correspondent is right in his views respecting the improvement of the grasses. We are yet ignorant in this branch of farming, at the same time, it is a subject of vital importance to the farmer, and the materials for experiment are abundant.

There are probably, five hundred or more different species of grasses, native or indigenous to the United States, and our own State has her due proportion of them. Our swamps, and bogs, and thickets, and hills present a great variety of them. Has the blue joint ever been subjected to cultivation, or made to grow save where the generous hand of Nature has planted it? It might be advantageously grown in some bogs that we know of, where the proprietor cuts hay of a much inferior quality to what this would make.

While speaking on this subject we will mention a species of grass which grows on the intervales about the Sandy River and Kennebec. It grows in clumps or detached bunches where nothing else is cultivated. It is there called Blue Grass—it is the Forked Beard grass (or Andropogon Furcatus of Botanists.) It is a tall coarse grass, flowering about the first of September. How it would grow if sowed thickly on cultivated soil we know not, but we have observed that Horses will eat it in preference to any other, after the seed begins to form.—There is also a smaller species of the same genus found there, called Chestnut Beard grass, having a long chestnut colored spike of flowers.

It is not many years since the culture of grasses was first commenced. The Romans, says Loudon, cultivated clover, and were careful of their meadows, but it does not appear that the seeds of the proper grasses were collected and sown by them. This branch of culture seems to have originated in England about the middle of the 17th century, and the grass made use of was the ryegrass. In Dr. Plots work, printed in 1677, he observes.—They have lately sown raygrass or the gramen loliaceum, by which they improve any cold, sour, clay weeping ground, for which it is best, but good also for drier upland grounds, especially for light stony or sandy land which is unfit for Saintfoin. It was first sown in the chiltern parts of Oxfordshire, and since brought nearer Oxford by one Eustace an ingenious husbandman of Islip, who, thought first LAUGHED AT* has since been followed even by those very persons that scorned his experiments.—The first grass tried after rye grass appears to have been the Phleum pratense (Herds grass) by Rocque of Walham green, about 1760.—Soon after, the seed of Cock's foot grass was introduced from Virginia under the name of Orchard grass, by the Society of Arts."

We may take up the subject of Grasses again at some future day.

* Farmers sometimes get laughed at in these days, for going a little out of common course. Ed. K. Far.

For the Kennebec Farmer.

Mr. Holmes:—Permit me to make some remarks relative to a piece in your paper of the 11th ult. signed "X, Y and sometimes Z." I consider it proper that the several correspondents in the Farmer should treat each other with decorum, and yet I apprehend we may investigate each other's arguments freely, without the imputation of harshness.

When the writer enquires what instructions the Kennebec Agricultural Society gave their several committees? it is a proper enquiry, but all must know that much is left discretionary.—On the subject of crops, the decision upon which, he complains, they were instructed not to award, or recommend premiums on small or inferior crops, whether there were competitors, or not, taking the season for raising, into consideration, as also the expense of raising—mode of culture, how much manure, &c. &c. These things were to be stated that other farmers might judge as to the utility or inutility of going on with the culture of that particular crop. For a committee to recommend a premium on an inferior and small crop would be to encourage idleness and sloth as much as enterprize and industry. The last season, though very bad for indian corn, was tolerable for potatoes, as they do not require heat like corn, and I leave every one to judge if 219 bushels to the acre was not an inferior crop—I had almost said a ridiculous one, for any gentleman to claim a premium on? Why sir, I have no doubt but that an acre of ground of middling quality—ploughed and manured as it ought to be, and planted in due season, would yield more than 219 bushels if it were never hoed at all. As it regards the writers remarks about twelve kinds of seed, I hope it will cause the officers in future to offer premiums for experiments made at considerable expense, even if nothing more should result from it than to prevent others from going into the same practice, or attempting to raise the same kind of vegetables by the same course, if the result is unfavorable. The committee of the last season were not so instructed, therefore in relation to C. Nelson of whom the writer speaks, is rested solely on his 219 bushels to the acre—season, expense mode of culture duly considered.

As to the writers logic, I was surprised when I read it. He enquires if the poor man is not deprived of equal privileges with the rich, by the society in regard to premiums; and says that he who has but 1 or 2 cows cannot permit their progeny to go with them 4 or 6 months although the rich man can, of course the rich man obtains better stock and also the premiums. Be it so, and I admit that the interest of the industrious poor man, of good habits, should ever be taken due care of by all classes, equal with, if not before, the interest of the rich. But there are in society not a few who have not a cow. Some, because they are so rich and independent, that they choose to purchase what milk, &c. they may need, rather than be troubled with keeping and milking cows; and some have none because they are too poor to purchase and keep one. Both classes compared with the whole community are small, and if we add those who have only one or two, they would still be few, compared with the whole. Now to refuse to give premiums at all, on stock because of this, would be to at once uproot all the exertions that have been made to improve our stock by societies and otherwise. The consequence shows the impropriety of the argument.

Nor does his argument respecting the rich man being better able to till well, and manure his land to the exclusion of the poor, as to premiums, rest on any better grounds. I am at a loss to know what the writer would have this society do.

They have come down to one quarter of an acre of ground for many kinds of crops, in order that the poor, as well as the rich might have equal opportunities, as far as the nature of the case can admit. This the writer knew, for he names the case of Deacon Metcalf, who had a premium for a crop of Ruta Baga on a quarter of an acre of land. Does he wish to reduce it to a rod or two? Even then there would be some so idle and stupid as not to strive for a premium. In regard to what he says of Deacon Metcalf's crop being small, I believe that he is not acquainted with a medium crop, which I take to be about 400 bushels to the acre, he exceeds that by about 120 bushels, on a piece of exhausted or worn out sward land, turned over in the spring, harrowed and manured, &c.

I should think 300 bushels of potatoes on an acre, hoed and taken care of, to be an average crop; but were I to put in for a premium on so small a yield as an average crop, in a common season for potatoes, I should think it must be a miserable committee who would patiently hear me, much less ought they to recommend that I should receive a premium.

I am not one of a committee for awarding or recommending premiums, but I should think that the society had better move on for the general good, notwithstanding some isolated cases; and I know that the society cannot approve of their committee being found fault with, without better evidence of partiality, than jealousy, by those who have not been active in aiding them, for from such we hear the most complaints generally.

I charge not this, however, to the writer of the piece above, for I do not know who he is.

Yours, &c. Ecclaircissement.

Anatomy.—The bill for legalizing the study of anatomy, by allowing all who are to be buried at the public expense, to be handed, over to the surgeons, has been referred to the next session of the legislature. It was suggested by way of an amendment, that all the Doctors be also dissected, as fast as they die off.

MECHANICS.

From the Mechanic's Magazine.

MEASURING OF ROUND TIMBER.

GENTLEMEN;—In Number 32, page 56, your correspondent Measurage having geometrically explained the cause of difference between customary measure and the true contents, I now present your readers with some expeditious methods of measuring round timber, making an allowance for the thickness of bark, as the case may require.

Let a person provide himself with a tape marked with inches for girthing of trees, when he will find the following rules accurate and expeditious:—

RULE 1.—No allowance to be made for bark.

Multiply the length in feet by the square of the whole girth in inches, and divide by 2304; the result gives cubic feet, customary measure.

RULE 2.—To allow ¼th for bark, as for elm timber.

Multiply the length in feet by the square of the whole girth in inches, and divide by 3009 = cubic feet, customary measure.

RULE 3.—To allow 1-10th for bark.

Multiply the length in feet by the square of the whole girth in inches, and divide by 2845 = cubic feet, customary measure.

RULE 4.—To allow 1-12th for bark, as for beech.

Multiply the length in feet by the square of the whole girth in inches, and divide by 2742 = cubic feet, customary measure.

NOTE.—A tree measures the most possible when the girth at the smallest end is ⅓rd of the largest end.

But as these rules are more elegantly expressed by algebraic terms, allow me to add the above rules with others for finding the true content.

Let L denote the length of tree in feet and decimals, and G the whole girth taken in inches; then

RULE 1.—No allowance for bark.

$\frac{L\ G^2}{2304}$ = cubic feet, customary, and

$\frac{L\ G^2}{1807}$ = cubic feet, true content.

RULE 2.—To allow 1-8th for bark.

$\frac{L\ G^2}{3009}$ = cubic feet, customary, and

$\frac{L\ G^2}{2360}$ = cubic feet, true content.

RULE 3.—To allow 1-10th for bark.

$\frac{L\ G^2}{2845}$ = cubic feet, customary, and

$\frac{L\ G^2}{2231}$ = cubic feet, true content.

RULE 4.—To allow 1-12th for bark.

$\frac{L\ G^2}{2742}$ = cubic feet, customary, and

$\frac{L\ G^2}{2150}$ = cubic feet, true content.

EXAMPLE BY RULE 1.—No allowance for bark.

A tree 40 feet long, and 60 inches whole girth or circumference.

$\frac{40 \times 60^2}{2304} = 62\frac{1}{2}$ cubic feet, customary, and

$\frac{40 \times 60^2}{1807} = 79\frac{3}{4}$ cubic feet, true content.

EXAMPLE BY RULE 2.—A tree 50 feet long, and 49 inches circumference.

$\frac{50 \times 49^2}{3009} = 40$ cubic feet, customary, and

$\frac{50 \times 49^2}{2360} = 50\frac{3}{4}$ cubic feet, true content.

Note.—The divisors in the above Rules are given to the nearest whole number, being sufficiently correct for practical purposes.

For engineers, carpenters, and mechanics in general, who use a sliding rule whose D or girth-line begins with unity, the following formulae will be useful. Let A B C D represent the lines on the rule.

A	2304 divisor, no allowance for bark.	
B	Length of tree in feet.	
C	Solidity or cubic feet, customary measure.	
D	Whole girth in inches.	

If a common carpenter's rule, take the square root of the above given number, and use the lines C and D. Thus,

C	Length in feet.	cubic feet answ. customary measure.
D	48, no allowance for bark.	whole girth in inches.

The proportion of customary measure to cylindrical is as 11 to 14.

Yours, WM. ANDREWS.

From the same.

GENTLEMEN;—Observing in your Magazine of April 3d, a letter signed MEASURAGE, on what HE terms the erroneous method of measuring round timber, I respectfully beg to submit the following remarks on timber-measuring. Being a country mechanic, I have frequently been employed in measuring timber both for the buyer and seller. I am aware that the customary method of measuring what is called round timber, would not be correct, were it used to measure a cylinder; but as timber-trees are not cylinders, it is much nearer so than MEASURAGE, and others who have before written on the subject, have asserted.—I am certain from the observations I have made, that if MEASURAGE's method were adopted, the buyer would never have as many solid, or cubic feet of timber, as would be measured to him by it; because, by his method, the circumference of every tree would be considered as that of a circle. It is known, that the circle contains more than any other figure of the same circumference; and, consequently, that any (the least) variation in the circumference of a figure from that of a circle, must cause the contents of such figure to be less than that of the circle: and the more the variation, the more will be lost in the contents. Every one knows, too, that trees in general are far from being perfectly round; and this alone proves, that MEASURAGE's method would lead to error, if adopted. His tree, for example, of 40 feet in length and 48 inches in circumference, does not contain 50 feet 11 inches, because it is measured as a cylinder, while it is not perfectly round, as a cylinder is considered to be. A cylinder, one foot in length and four feet in circumference, by customary girt-measure, contains one foot, and the true contents of it, measured as a cylinder, are 12·732 feet. Now, if trees were measured in the same manner, the excess would appear to be more than one-fourth over the customary girt-measure; but, as before observed, their circumference exceeding their contents, more or less than that of a circle, takes off some part of this excess. In addition to this, many trees have hollow parts along their surface, so that in girting them, there is an open space between the line and the outside of the tree: this open space, by calculating from one quarter of the circumference found by the line, is brought into the contents as timber, which will take off more of the excess; and these two circumstances, in a number of trees of various shapes, may be nearly equal to the half of that excess. Timber must be hewn to prepare it for sawing, and generally is so before it is carried. If it is properly hewn, the four segments hewn off and wasted in a log of timber equal to a cylinder of the above dimensions, is ·1276 of a foot: if this waste be taken into the account (as, from not being brought into use, as timber, it ought to be) it is almost equal to the other half of the excess, the whole being ·2732 of a foot.—Hence it appears that the buyer will have very few, if any, more cubic feet in a quantity of timber, than is measured to him by customary girt measure.

Tapering timber, measured at one length and girt, contains more in customary measure than is made of it; but this excess is of no benefit, it being, in general, thrown away in the thick ends of the slabs. Hewn timber is measured by a customary method, the diameter being taken for the side of the square; and if unequal sided, that is, if the diameter is more one way than the other, a mean proportional is found for it. From its not being hewn to what is termed DIE-SQUARE, the true contents are much less than this customary measure makes it, 40 feet girt-measure, and if hewn lightly, to more: this difference is known to persons concerned with timber, and the price per foot is in proportion. Foreign timber is hewn to die-square, and in that case the solidity is equal to the measured contents. To show the difference between die-square and round timber, suppose that two logs of timber were placed by each other, one of them rouud and the other hewn die-square, that their contents are equal according to the respective methods of measuring each, and that they are both of one price per foot; I have no doubt that the die-square log will be taken by any buyer; for general purposes, in preference to the round, notwithstanding all the advantages customary girt-measure may be supposed to give it. How long this customary method of measuring round timber has been in use, I know not; perhaps our ancestors knew as much of the circle as we do, and judged that (such circumstances as have been mentioned considered) the taking one quarter of the circumference for the side of the square, as it would rather give the buyer the turn of the scale, would be but right; and that the measuring of a timber-tree as a cylinder or frustum of a cone, as it would not give the buyer his due, would be wrong.

A point on the side-rule to find the contents of a cylinder from the length in feet, and one

quarter of the circumference in inches, is easily found; for the area of a quarter of the circumference of a circle being 144. is nearly at 10 64 on the line D. Mr. Hoppus, or others before him, could have calculated tables for timber-measuring in this manner, had it been the best; but, perhaps, the old customary method is as well as any that can be found.

If I am one of those whom MEASURAGE is pleased to style 'pretended timber-measurers,' I must remain so. I think (I beg his pardon if I am mistaken) that he is a theorist in the art, who has never been scratched in passing among bushes, to see and measure timber, otherwise he would have observed the irregularity in the circumference of trees, and from his knowledge of the circle, would have been of a different opinion in respect to the mode of measuring them.

I am Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant, T. M.

From the Working-man's Companion.

THE RESULTS OF MACHINERY.

When men gather together in large bodies, and inhabit towns or cities, a plentiful supply of water is the first thing to which they direct their attention. If towns are built in situations where pure water cannot be readily obtained, the inhabitants, and especially the poorer sort, suffer even more misery than results from the want of bread or clothes. In some cities of Spain, for instance, where the people understand very little about machinery, water, at particular periods of the year, is as dear as wine; and the laboring classes are consequently in a most miserable condition. In London, on the contrary, water is so plentiful, that twenty-nine millions of gallons are daily supplied to the inhabitants; which quantity, distributed to about one hundred and twenty-five thousand houses and other buildings, is at the rate of above two hundred gallons every day to each house. To many of the houses this water is, by the aid of machinery, not only delivered to the kitchens and wash-houses on the ground-floors, where it is most wanted, but is sent up to the very tops of the houses, to save even the comparatively little labor of fetching it from the bottom. All this is done at an average cost to each house of about two-pence a-day; which is a less price than the labor of an able-bodied man would be worth to fetch a single bucket, from a spring half a mile from his own dwelling.

And how did the inhabitants of London set about getting this great supply of water?—How did they get a sufficient quantity, not only to use as much as they please for drinking, for cooking, and for washing, but obtained such an abundance, that the poorest man can afford to throw it away as if it cost nothing, into the channels which are also provided for carrying it off, and thus to free his own room or house from every impurity, and by so doing to render this vast place one of the most healthful cities in the world? They set about doing this great work by machinery; and they began to do it when the value of machinery in other things was not so well understood as it is now. As long ago as the year 1236, when a great want of water was felt in London, the little springs being blocked up and covered over by buildings, the ruling men of the city caused water to be brought from Tyburn, which was then a distant village, by means of pipes; and they laid a tax upon particular branches of trade to pay the expense of this great blessing to all. In succeeding times more pipes and conduits, that is, more machinery, was established for the same good purpose; and two centuries afterwards, King Henry the Sixth gave his aid to the same sort of works, in granting particular advantages in obtaining lead for making the pipes. The reason for this aid to such works was, as the royal decree set forth, that they were "for the common utility and decency of all the city, and FOR THE UNIVERSAL ADVANTAGE;" and a very true reason this was. At this great town more and more increased, more water-works were found necessary; till at last, in the reign of James the First, which was nearly two hundred years after that of Henry the Sixth, a most ingenious and enterprising man, and a great benefactor to his country, Hugh Myddleton, undertook to bring a river of pure water above thirty-eight miles out of its natural course, for the supply of London. He persevered in this immense undertaking,—in spite of every difficulty, till he at last accomplished that great good which he had proposed, of bringing wholesome water to every man's door. At the present time, the New River, which was the work of Hugh Myddleton, supplies thirteen millions of gallons of water every day; and though the original projector was ruined by the undertaking, in consequence of the difficulty which he had in procuring proper support, such is now the general advantage of the benefit which he procured for his fellow-citizens, and so desirous are the people to possess that advantage, that a share in the New River company, which was at first sold at one hundred pounds, is now worth fifteen thousand pounds.

Before the people of London had water brought to their own doors, and even into their very houses, and into every room of their houses where it is desirable to bring it, they were obliged to send for this great article of life—first to the few springs which were found in the city and its neighborhood, and secondly, to the conduits and fountains, which were imperfect mechanical contrivances; but they could not have been rendered so perfect without engines, which force the water above the level of the source from which it is taken. When the inhabitants fetched their water from the springs and conduits, there was a great deal of human labor employed; and as in every large community there are always people ready to perform labor for money, many persons obtained a living by carrying water. When the New River had been dug, and the pipes had been laid down, and the engines had been set up, it is perfectly clear that there would have been no further need for these water-carriers. When the people of London could obtain two hundred gallons of water for two-pence, they would not employ a man to fetch a single bucket from the river or the fountain at the same price. They would not for the mere love of employing human labor directly, continue to buy an article very dear, which, by mechanical aid, they could buy very cheap. If they had resolved, from any mistaken notions about machinery, to continue to employ the water-carriers, they must have been contented with one gallon of water a day instead of two hundred gallons. Or if they had consumed a larger quantity, and continued to pay the price of bringing it to them by hand, they must have denied themselves other necessaries and comforts.—They must have gone without a certain portion of food, or clothing, or fuel, which they are now enabled to obtain by the saving in the article of water. To have had for each house two hundred gallons of water, and in having this two hundred gallons of water, to have had the cleanliness and health which result from its use, would have been utterly impossible. At two-pence a gallon, which would not have been a large price considering the distances to which it must have been carried, the same supply of water would have cost about nine millions of pounds sterling a year, and would have employed, at the wages of two shillings a day, more than one-half of all the present inhabitants of London, or eight hundred thousand people, that is, about four times the number of able-bodied men altogether contained in the metropolis.—Such a supply therefore would have been utterly out of the question. To have supplied one gallon instead of two hundred gallons to each house at the same rate of wages, would have required the labor of twelve thousand men. It is evident that even this number could not have been employed in such an office: because had there been no means of supplying London with water but the means of human hands, London could not have increased to one twentieth of its present size;—there would not have been one twentieth part of the population to have been supplied—and therefore six hundred water-carriers would have been an ample proportion to this population.

There is now, certainly, no labor to be performed by water-carriers. But suppose that five hundred years ago,—when there were a small number of persons who gained their living by such drudgery, they had determined,—with as much justice and reason as the present breakers of machinery, to prevent the bringing of water by pipes into London. Suppose also that they had succeeded; and that up to the present day we had no pipes or other mechanical aids for supplying the water. It is quite evident that if this misfortune had happend—if the welfare of the many had been retarded, (for it never could have been finally stopt,) by the ignorance of the few—London, as we have already shown, would not have had a twentieth part of its present population; and the population of every other town, depending as population does upon the increase of PROFITABLE labor, could never have gone forward. How then would the case have stood as to the amount of labor engaged in the supply of water? A few hundred, at the utmost a few thousand, carriers of water would have been employed throughout the kingdom; while the smelters and founders of iron of which water-pipes are made, the laborers who lay down these pipes, the founders of lead who make the service-pipes, and the plumbers who apply them; the carriers, whether by water or land, who are en-

gaged in bringing them to the towns, the manufacturers of the engines which raise the water, the builders of the houses in which the engines stand,—these, and many other laborers and mechanics who directly and indirectly contribute to the same public advantage, could never have been called into employment. To have continued to use the power of water-carriers, would have rendered the commo ity two hundred times dearer than it is supplied by mechanical power. The present cheapness of production, by mechanical power, supplies employment to an infinitely greater number of persons than could have been required by a perseverance in the rude and wasteful system which belonged to former ages of ignorance and wretchedness.

MAINE LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, February 13.

The Secretary of State laid on the table a written message from the Governor, with accompanying documents, which were read and referred to the committee who have under consideration certain resolutions from Georgia.

Finally passed--Bills to incorporate Skowhegan Free Bridge, giving further remedy in cases of wilful trespass, in addition to an act to incorporate the town of Pembroke, for the preservation of Rumford Bridge, and to incorporate Somerset Horticultural Society.

Bill providing for the choice of Representatives to Congress, was read a second time.

THURSDAY, Feb. 14.

Bill granting 1000 dollars to Westbrook Seminary was discussed and laid on the table.

The Committee to whom was recommitted the bill to district the State for Representatives to Congress, reported it in a new draft.

On motion of Mr. Drummond, the bill was laid on the table in order to give time to examine the map and compare the population of the towns.

FRIDAY, Feb, 15.

Bill to set off part of Hallowell to Gardiner was taken up, and after considerable debate, referred to the next Legislature--Yeas 17, Nays 7.

The bill to district the State for the choice of Representatives to Congress being taken up, Mr Williamson withdrew the amendment he offered yesterday, and offered the following: that Lincoln County, except the towns of Wales, Lisbon, Lewiston, Litchfield, and Richmond, compose one district; Waldo County, with the towns of Windsor, Albion, China, Winslow, Clinton, Vassalborough, and the territory north of Albion, in Kennebec County, one district; the remainder of Kennebec, with Wales, Lisbon, Lewiston, Litchfield anr Richmond, one district.

A debate arose, on this amendment, which occupied the Senate until the hour of adjournment.

SATURDAY, Feb. 16.

Resolve respecting the public lands passed to be engrossed in concurrence with the amendments of the House.

A message was received from the Governor transmitting the report of the Commissioners of the public buildings.

Mr. Williamson, from the Committee on Lotteries, reported a resolve authorizing the Govenor and Council to settle the accounts of the managers of the steam navigation lottery.

A communication was received from the Secretary of State in relation to appropriations for state roads and bridges.

MONDAY, Feb. 18.

Resolve for the reimbursement of expenses incurred for the purpose of preventing the introduction of the Asiatic cholera into the State. On the question of passing it to be eng ossed, a spirited discussion arose. The amount incurred is between 500 & 600 dollars, which was expended in keeping guards on the Canada road, last Spring to prevent the inroad of European emigrants from Canada, infected with cholera. These expenses were authorized at a meeting of the Selectmen of several towns in Somerset, with an assurance from the Governor that the expense would, no doubt, be paid by the State. The resolve passed to be engrosse l, 15 to 7.

TUESDAY, Feb. 19.

Bill further to provide for the education of youth; to incorporate the Mutual Fire Insurance Company; to incorporate Hallowell hotel; additional to an act defining the duties and powers of justices of the peace respecting actions of replevin; severally passed to be engrossed.

The Senate proceeded to ballot for Major Gen. of the 8th division. The whole number of votes was 22, all of which were for Samuel P. Strickland.

Resolve for completing the Baring and Houlton road, was taken up. Mr Randall moved the reconsideration of his former amendment, which was done, and he proposed another, which was adopted, limiting the appropriation to $4000 besides what is already contracted for. The resolve, thus amended, after some debate passed to be engrossed.

HOUSE.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 13.

Bill to repeal an Act incorporating the Methodist Society in Winthrop, was read twice, in new draft, and assigned.

Resolve for the division of certain Indian lands passed to be engrossed.

Resolve respecting sale of Public Lands, read once.

THURSDAY, Feb. 14,

Act to prolong charter of Bath Bank---passed to be engrossed.

Act to providing that draws in free bridges over tide waters, shall be made at county expense—read a third time and indefinitely postponed.—[Mr Grosvenor of Minot, objected to the bill, as obliging interior towns to bear the burdens properly belonging to those on the Sea board, who have the advantage of tide waters.

On motion of Mr. Pierce of Gorham, the petition of Parsonsfield Seminary for aid was recommitted to the Committee on Literature.

FRIDAY, Feb. 15.

A communication was read by the Speaker from the Land Agent, transmitting statements required by the order of the House of the 6th inst. Referred to Committee on State Lands, and 300 copies ordered to be printed.

Resolve authorising the Governor to settle the claim of this State upon Massachusetts by arbitration or otherwise, read once and assigned.

SATURDAY, Feb. 16.

Bills addional to annex the town of Corinna to the Co. of Penobscot; to repeal an act incorporating the Methodist Society in Winthrop; for benefit of the town of Dennysville; to adjust the claim of Maine on Massachusetts; to prevent frauds in the sale of oil; passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr Chase of Calais, the Bill to legalise the Study of Anatomy was taken up. Mr C. moved to refer to the next legislature. Carried.

MONDAY, Feb. 18.

On motion of Mr. Huse of Wilton, *Ordered*. That Messrs. Huse, Mitchell and Hutchinson, be a committee to inquire into the expediency of making further provision for the education of indigent deaf apd dumb persons, at the American Asylum at Hartford.

TUESDAY, Feb. 19

Bill authorizing the first parish in Winthrop to appropriate certain ministerial funds to the support of primary schools, taken up in a third reading. Mr Swett of Prospect moved to postpone indefinitely.

Mr Benson of China, opposed the motion, and gave a detailed statement of the facts. The question was further debated by Messrs. Hobbs, Emmons and Chase of Milton, and decided in the negative, and the bill was passed to be engrossed without division.

Resolve for ascertaining the quantity of the soil, growth of timber, and the geology of the public landr, read once and assigned.

SUMMARY.

MECHANICS—*Their prices for labor.* It is equally necessary to the welfare of all operative Mechanics, that there be an acknowledged standard of prices observed by each and every profession. Such a regulation would prove beneficial to all parties, and especially to master builders. By rearing a standard bearing the price to be set on every article manufactured, the ruinous business of competition would be less engaged in, and every one would receive pay according to his ability. Without a bill regulating prices, what is the consequence? Let us enquire. Mr. Moneydraw is about to build a house—he first goes to Mr. Foreplane and asks *"how much will you charge* to put up a building 35 by 50, finished as well as my old friend Sightdrafts?" Mr. F. after much figuring and calculation, replies, say $2,000.

Moneydraw--Ah, that's too much, Mr. Handsaw will do the work for $1800, and surely you can do it as cheap as he can.

Foreplane.—(After much figuring,) Well, I will do it for that amount—I will work as cheap as any one.

M.—But, will you not do it cheaper? if you will do it for *less* than he, I will have further talk with you.

F.—(Out of work and hard run for cash,) Yes, I will do it for 1750 dollars, and go about it immediately.

Mr. Moneydraw, after promising to call again, now retires, elated at the success he has met with in getting the lowest price of Mr. F. and returns back to see Mr. Handsaw; tells him the price of Foreplane, and beats him down to 1700 dollars; and so he steps back and forth until he agrees to give the builder just enough to pay his journeyman, leaving him to other resources to support his family while performing the work.

This dialogue is not a mere visionary speculation—it has many a parallel within the circle of our acquaintance, and to no other source can we look for the suppression of this inequitable mode of proceeding, than that of raising a full bill of prices, not only for the house wright, but for every mechanical branch of business, that useful labor may be protected and encouraged.

[*Workingmen's Press.*

GUIDE BOARDS.--In this benighted sort of a world, there should be some artificial light, enough at least to keep travellers out of the many moral and physical pitfalls which the ingenuity of man and the contrivance of his restless energies have opened around him. There should, in particular be more Guide Boards, at the intersection of roads, set up in every town in the country, than there is at the present moment. They are an economical article, as well as an intelligent and very convenient one, which many more costly matters cannot claim the small merit of possessing. A weary traveller, in a cheerless, stormy day, is urging on his tired horses through an insulated, thin settlement, anxious to arrive at some given

point before clouds and darkness are round about him and night sets in. He started right on his journey and he presumes his progress onward continues to be the same; at least, there may be nothing to undeceive him, nothing by which he can calculate his position or adjust the supposed inaccuracy of his reckonings. He continues to go on, yet he has some apprehensions he has misjudged the road and mistaken his way. Night ensues, and worn out with fatigue and his animals exhausted with labor, he joyfully comes within sound and sight of human habitations. In reply to his enquiries, he learns he has mistaken the road and wandered a long distance in a direction foreign from that which he should have taken. His only solace is, he must retrace his steps some weary miles before he can reach, that night, his desired haven.

There is culpable negligence in all our towns in not putting up more of these little, unostentatious posts at every doubtful point of locomotion, to guide the weary traveller aright and facilitate his journey onward. [*Northampton Courier*]

HANDSOME. A New Orleans paper of the 16th ult, announces the arrival in that city, of Mr. Edward Hammon, the celebrated pugilist, and goes on to say that "the lovers of pugilism may therefore expect to see some handsome sport in a few days." Peoples' notions differ much about what is handsome. We have heard in our time the same word applied to a sermon, a cold, a potato, a thrashing, a scolding, a snow storm, a woman, a retort, an apology, a tumble, a fracture, a kicking, a spider, a hog, a dinner, a sirloin, a pistol, a robbery, and a hundred more things that had no earthly resemblance among themselves either in character, effect, or appearance. It may be very good sport to see two men pommel each other to death; but it passes our ingenuity to discover the *beauty* of bloody noses, black eyes, broken heads and demolished ribs. But there's no accounting for tastes. [*N. Y. Standard.*]

SINGULAR EVENT. The following very singular event occurred in the town of Madison in this County about three weeks since. Mr. Benjamin Smith had a place on his farm where he baited foxes for the purpose of shooting them. One morning soon after day break he went to the place for this purpose, when on reaching his covert or bough house, he discovered a large animal near the fox bait. He at first took it for a large dog belonging to one of his neighbors, but a shift of position by the animal satisfied him at once that it was not a dog but an enormous black WOLF, whereupon he discharged his gun at him, which was loaded with large shot. Immediately the wolf fell with his legs under him and appeared as if dead, which Mr. Smith supposed to be the case, and laying down his gun advanced towards him. When he had approached within ten or fifteen feet of him the wolf rose and sprang upon him, seizing him by the leg near the ancle. Immediately a sort of "rough and tumble" struggle commenced, each striving to get the other under, the wolf all the while retaining his grip upon Mr. Smith's leg. At length Mr. S. succeeded in throwing the wolf upon his side, and holding him in this position with one hand and his knee, he got out his jack knife, which he fortunately had with him and plunged it into the throat of his ferocious assailant, who continued his hold upon Mr. Smith's leg, biting and growling, until he bled to death. Mr. S. received but little injury in the conflict, his thick boot protecting his leg from the teeth of the wolf who was only able just to scratch the skin a little. The wolf was full grown and very large, measuring nearly five feet from snout to tail.

Somerset Journal.

For the Kennebec Farmer.

MR. HOLMES:--Having before treated of a number of things which have an indirect bearing upon the breadstuff of Maine, and promised those which have a more direct bearing, I therefore proceed to mention such as occur to my mind, and *First of The imperfect understanding of wheat raising in this state.* It is to be hoped that the wheat raising business may hereafter be so well understood that we may become famous for that crop. It is emphatically the golden crop, and I think it may be brought to as great a state of perfection in this as in any other section of the union, or any place in the known world and cultivated to as great an extent, as in any other country. While on this subject I will mention a few things which appear to me important. The first is good sound and perfectly ripe seed. Never be satisfied until you have a good kind, and then select the best of that annually. It ought to be done much as good farmers select their seed from Indian corn. Second, a proper quantity of seed sown to the acre; not so much as to fill the land so full that it will be crowded, nor so little that it has to sucker to fill the land, for the suckers will grow fast and consequently be more liable to blast, and will not ripen evenly or at the same time with the stalks proceeding directly from the seed. Third, not too much animal or vegetable manure, nor too little. If there is too much it grows rapidly, and of course is weak and unhealthy and exposed, should the weather favor it, to blast or blight. A proper quantity of alkali by means of wood ashes and also lime is important, I have no doubt that is absolutely necessary to the perfection of wheat that the soil should contain lime, either naturally or supplied by art.

Put your finger on the map of the world and that spot which contains lime, if properly manured is a wheat spot, unless so near the sea as to be destroyed by the sea breezes and exhalations and the contrary may be expected if there should be a lack of that material. The art of wheat raising may I think, be reduced to a few general rules; viz. Good soil for the crop, a stiff clay loam if not rendered too wet by a bad subsoil;--a proper quantity of animal and vegetable manure. -Good seed, and not too much nor to little, sown with mild lime to perfect the crop. The land well tilled, and the blessings of Divine Providence.

Second. INDIAN CORN. This crop may be raised upon our sandy loams, in as great perfection as in any part of the world, if as well tilled. It should be planted proportionably nigher together and well manured, having due regard to the variety or kind planted.

Thirdly. RYE, may be advantageously raised on almost any sandy soil; and in almost any quantity.

Fourthly. BUCK WHEAT may be raised in almost any quantity and used when it is first harvested, and eaten warm, it makes an agreeable bread. It is also used for Hogs and Horses.

Fifthly. OATS when hulled by proper mills, make a flour that sells in the Nova Scotia markets, at nearly the same price as flour made from wheat, and they may be raised almost any where.

Sixthly. BARLEY, is raised to advantage in many parts of Maine, and its use as a breadstuff is appreciated in many countries of Europe and in some part of our own.

Seventhly: The raising of POTATOES and other roots may be a substitute for Breadstuff as it respects our stock, and if boiled and properly prepared, may be used in considerable quantities in wheaten bread.

Eighthly. We must use the plough more and *sow something*. Pease will grow on the poorest of land. (If it be tillage land) without much manure, and they are a substitute for Indian corn if mixed with oats and ground for Hogs Horses &c. Hogs may be fattened by turning them into the field, and permitting them to eat them directly from the ground.

Ninthly. Let our agricultural societies give a respectable premium to the man who grows the greatest number of bushels of breadstuff without regard to the number of acres on which it grows.

A MAINE FARMER.

CONQUEROR. We are exceedingly gratified to learn that Major Stanley of this town, has bought the Stud Horse CONQUEROR, and that he will stand the ensuing season in this town and vicinity. He was kept last year at the Ten Hills Farm, under the superintendance of Col. Jaques, and is a superb Horse.

We think he will be quite an acquisition to those in this neighborhood, who are desirous of improving their breed of Horses.—He has not yet arrived, but will be here in due season.

DEATHS.

In Vassalborough, on Tuesday last, of canker rash, Geo. W. son of Mr. John Gray, aged 6 years.

In Solon, on the 7th inst. Mr Zebedee Rowell, aged 58.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Fable of the Wood Rose and the Laurel.

In these deep shades a floweret blows,
Whose leaves a thousand sweets disclose ;
With modest air it hides its charms,
And every breeze its leaves alarms ;
Turns on the ground its bashful eyes,
And oft unknown, neglected, dies.
This flower, as late I careless stray'd,
I saw in all its charms array'd.
Fast by the spot where low it grew,
A proud and flaunting Wood Rose blew,
With haughty air her head she rais'd
And on the beautious plant she gaz'd,
While struggling passion swell'd her breast,
She thus her kindling rage express'd :

" Thou worthless flower,
Go leave my bower,
And hide in humbler scenes thy head :
How dost thou dare,
Where roses are,
Thy scents to shed ?

Go, leave my bower, and live unknown ;
I'll rule the world of flowers alone."
—" And dost thou think"—the Laurel cried,
And rais'd its head with modest pride,
While on its little trembling tongue
A drop of dew incumbent hung—

" And dost thou think I'll leave this bower
The seat of many a friendly flower,
The scene where first I grew ?
Thy haughty reign will soon be o'er,
And thy frail form will bloom no more ;
My flower will perish too.

But know, proud rose,
When winter's snows
Shall fall where once thy beauties stood,
My pointed leaf of shining green
Will still amid the gloom be seen,
To cheer the leafless wood."

" Presuming fool !" the Wood Rose cried,
And strove in vain her shame to hide ;
But, ah ! no more the flower could say ;
For, while she spoke, a transient breeze
Came rustling through the neighboring trees,
And bore her boasted charms away.

And such, said I, is Beauty's power !
Like thee she falls, poor trifling flower ;
And, if she lives her little day,
Lifes' winter comes with rapid pace,
And robs her form of every grace,
And steals her bloom away.

But in thy form, thou Laurel green,
Fair Virtue's semblance soon is seen.
In life she cheers each different stage,
Spring's transient reign, and Summer's glow,
And Autumn mild, advancing slow,
And lights the eye of age.

Thoughts on Temperance, addressed to Females, by a Lady.

"We are verily guilty concerning our brother."
Gen. 42, 21.

When to expunge a foul blot from national character, the great, and wise, and benevolent are combining their energies, it becomes not those of humble name or obscure station, to remain indifferent. The weaker sex, who depend on others for safety and protection, have immense interest at stake, in the morality and purity of the community. The plea of want of power, can scarcely be admitted in their defence, since the politicians of our own day have asserted that no vice can obtain great predominance in society, without the permission of females.

The cause of temperance, which has already wro't such wonders, and has still a giant's labor to perform, has claims to their earnest co-operation. Surely they, whose duties and felicities are involved in the conjugal and maternal relations, should be peculiary and painfully watchful against whatever desecrates the domestic sanctuary.

We do not, of course, address those females who have given their hand to the de-troyer — We are sensible that scarcely any agent, save the voice of Him who raiseth the dead, is available to break their bondage. But they, who with regard to the insiduous poison of intemperance, literally obey the precept " touch not, taste not, handle not," and thus suppose themselves absolved from all further responsibility, are they therefore absolved ?

My sisters, if we assent to the proposition, that not to prevent evil when in our power to do so, is as blameable as to have aided in its perpetration, are we justified in supineness while such multitudes are going down to the grave with this leprosy in their skirts, and upon their souls ? Do we, to the teaching of example, add the whole weight of that influence which the courtesy of an enlightened age and the condescension of the religion of Jesus have in these latter days accorded us ? If we are conscious of remissness, let the words of a poet admonish us,

" Lo ! our not-doing is set down
Among our darkest deeds."

Let the Book of God counsel us, to avoid the anguish with which the erring sons of Jacob exclaimed, " we are verily guilty concerning our brother." The spoiler is by the fireside, at the household board, in the nursery—have we nothing to do ? We, whose affections have their rooting at the fireside—who preside at the household board—to whom the nursery is the garnet of the fondest hopes for time and for eternity, shall we see amidst these hallowed haunts, the footsteps of an enemy, and slumber ?

Wife ! who by a solemn vow before men and angels, hast entered into an union which only death can sever, has it been your fate to see the vice of intemperance casting a deadly shadow over the heart, in which reposed your highest earthly confidence ? And day by day, and hour by hour, as you watched its fearful ravages, were you vigilant, not to upbraid, not to argue reproachfully, but to repress your own sorrows, to render home desirable, to revivify those affections which are the guardians of purity and peace ? Above all, were your supplications unceasing to Him who turneth the heart of man, as the rivers of water are turned ? If so, though the harvest of your toils may have perished—though the disruption of your hopes nothing earthly can supply, still you will have escaped the deeper torture of reflecting that you are "verily guilty concerning" him who was once your more than brother, your next to God.

Mother ! whose duties are laid deeper than any vow of the lips, even in the immutable strength of a love that cannot swerve, have you counselled y ur offspring in this matter, " rising up early, and late taking rest ?" Among those habits which modify character, did you recalculate the control of the animal appetites, the superiority of happiness derived from intellect and virtue, to the fleeting pleasures of sense, the nobleness of subjugating the flesh to the spirit ? Did you oppose with your frown, with the force of your authority, the first aberration from these principles ? Did you fully set before them the infirmity of their nature, the dangers that surround them—their need to seek help from above ? At dawn and at noonday, and in the hush of midnight, was there a lifting up of your heart, that they might be "temperate in all things ?" Yet, should it be your lot, to behold one whom you had nurtured, blot the heritage of his ancestors, and lay down in a drunkard's grave—God forbid that you stand before his tribunal and say, " I am verily guilty concerning"——whom ?—not the brother, whose conduct you might not have been able to influence ; not the husband, whom it was not your province to control—but the CHILD whom you bro't into life, and loved more than life ; THE CHILD, for the first pencillings upon whose soul you were accountable, because it was entrusted to you as soft and unsullied wax, that you might stamp it with the seal of Heaven.

L. H. S.

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